

world in which we live. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in offering Mr. and Mrs. Lazar and Francia Piro best wishes for continued happiness.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION ACT OF 2005

## HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Wind Cave National Park Boundary Revision Act of 2005.

South Dakota's Wind Cave National Park was one of our nation's first national parks and is one of the jewels in our national park system. President Theodore Roosevelt signed the legislation creating Wind Cave National Park on January 9, 1903. With that act, Wind Cave became the first cave in the world to be designated as a national park.

The cave itself, after which the park is named, is one of the world's oldest, longest and most complex cave systems, with more than 114 miles of mapped tunnels. To this day, cave enthusiasts continue to explore the cave and map new passages. In fact, Wind Cave has very recently become recognized as the fifth-longest cave in the world. It is well known for its exceptional display of boxwork, a rare, honeycomb-shaped formation that protrudes from the cave's ceilings and walls.

While the cave is the focal point of the park, the land above the cave is equally impressive, with more than 28,000 acres of grasslands, forests, and streams. The park is one of the few remaining mixed-grass prairie ecosystems in the country, and is a National Game Preserve that provides a home for abundant wildlife such as bison, deer, elk and birds.

The Wind Cave National Park Boundary Revision Act will help expand the park by approximately 20 percent in the southern "key-hole" region. The current landowners are willing sellers that would like to see it protected from development and preserved for future generations. The land is a natural extension of the park, and boasts the mixed-grass prairie and ponderosa pine forests, including a dramatic river canyon. The addition of this land will enhance recreation for hikers who come for the solitude of the park's back country. It will also protect archaeological sites, such as a dramatic buffalo jump, over which early Native Americans once drove the bison they hunted.

This plan to expand the park has strong support in the surrounding community. Most South Dakotans recognize the value in expanding the park, not only to encourage additional tourism in the Black Hills, but to permanently protect these extraordinary lands for future generations of Americans to enjoy.

Governor Michael Rounds has expressed his support for the park expansion and both Senators in South Dakota's delegation, TIM JOHNSON and JOHN THUNE, are introducing companion legislation in the Senate to expand the park boundaries.

I believe that this expansion can be achieved without a reduction in the acreage accessible to the public for hunting, and without a loss of tax revenue to county govern-

ments. Also, I would look to the National Parks Service to tackle issues like chronic wasting disease and deal with them effectively. These are reasonable concerns that should be met as this process moves forward.

Wind Cave National Park has been a valued American treasure for more than 100 years. We have an opportunity with this legislation to expand the park and enhance its value to the public so that visitors will enjoy it forever. It is my hope that my colleagues will support this expansion of the park and pass this legislation in the near future.

# INTRODUCTION OF MAGLITE PATENT EXTENSION

## HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, while many manufacturers have been cutting costs by relocating overseas or contracting to foreign companies, one small flashlight manufacturer has decided to stay put in the U.S.A.

Right now that company is in danger and needs our help.

Mag Instrument, maker of the Maglite flashlight, filed for a reissue patent in 1990 but was not approved until 2003—13 years later. The delay in that 2-year extension led to countless foreign manufacturers copying the design, flooding foreign markets with their knock-offs ever since.

The Maglite patent expires this year. If we let that happen we can expect a flood of knock-offs here in the U.S.A., jeopardizing 900 American jobs and a great American product.

Today, I am proud to introduce legislation to extend the patent for the Maglite flashlight for an additional 2 years.

The Maglite flashlight is not some fancy medicine or artificial heart, but nonetheless represents American innovation and the ability of one man to turn a great idea into "the American dream."

The Maglite is a beloved tool of police officers, firefighters, and E.M.T.'s nationwide. Military units often replace their service issue flashlights with Maglites. Engineers at the USS *Cole* credited this flashlight with helping them to save lives and to keep the ship from sinking.

That is why I am proud to introduce this legislation today along with 10 of my colleagues, and the support of the National Association of Police Organizations, its 52 affiliates and my hometown police organization, the San Bernardino County Safety Employees' Association.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me by cosponsoring this bill. We need to make sure our police officers and first responders have this nearly indestructible American-made steel flashlight instead of a fragile foreign knock-off flashlight made of aluminum or plastic.

We need to keep the seal "Made in the U.S.A." on this great all-American flashlight.

ON BEHALF OF DR. CHARLES HAMILTON

## HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and recognize the achievements and accomplishments of a great and beloved physician from Lafayette, Louisiana. Dr. Charles Hamilton passed away on Friday, October 22, 2004 after a battle with cancer of the esophagus. On his retirement, Dr. Hamilton was asked, "What are the most memorable events of your medical career?" His response was simple, "Practicing in Lafayette."

From 1954 to 1988, Dr. Hamilton practiced pediatrics as a partner in the Hamilton Medical Group. Dr. Hamilton worked as a physician field representative for the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organization from 1989 to his retirement in 2003. Dr. Hamilton's special interest remained in the delivery of high quality medical care and it is toward that end that he pursued further education and practice in the field of healthcare administration. Dr. Hamilton was acutely aware of the treatment of children because he was the parent of a chronically ill child. His son, Charles Hamilton, was born with the blood-clotting disorder, Hemophilia.

Dr. Hamilton was special for many reasons but one reason was his embrace and protection of the hemophilia community. Dr. Hamilton developed a reputation for his diligence, sensitivity, and resourcefulness in treating children with hemophilia; these characteristics are often missing in hemophilia treatment. In fact, one single parent brought her son with hemophilia to see him after moving to Lafayette. Dr. Hamilton later married that single mother, Janice Hamilton and adopted her young son, Charles. In a community where fathers often abandon children with hemophilia, or otherwise are not involved with treatment, Dr. Hamilton embraced a family with this dreaded disorder. Sadly, Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton lost their son Charles in 1979 due to complications from a bleed.

Because of their son's illness and untimely death, Dr. Hamilton worked side by side with his wife in her determination to improve the quality of life for people with hemophilia and their families in the United States. For their efforts Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton were given the inaugural Charles Stanley Hamilton Legacy Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Hemophilia Federation of America.

Dr. Hamilton served numerous local, state and national organizations because community service was an important aspect of his overall beliefs. Dr. Hamilton worked with the Louisiana Epilepsy Association, Louisiana Chapter of the National Hemophilia Foundation, which he served as President, the National Hemophilia Foundation, and the Hemophilia Federation of America. His wife, Janice Hamilton, and three surviving children and 5 grandchildren survive Dr. Hamilton. Louisiana has lost a great public servant with no equal.